

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAJ-01 NIC-01 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /069 W

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R 210650Z MAR 75

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3431

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 501

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, CH, SU

SUBJECT: SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS

1. DURING LUNCHEON MEETING WITH SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR CHUKHROV MARCH 21, USLO OFFICER ASKED IF FURTHER MEETINGS HAD TAKEN PLACE FOLLOWING INITIAL CALLS BY SOVIET BORDER NEGOTIATOR ILICHEV ON VICE MINISTER HAN NIEN-LUNG. CHUKHROV SAID THAT MEETINGS WERE TAKING PLACE ON THE AVERAGE OF TWICE A WEEK, AND THAT IN FACT, A SESSION WAS SCHEDULED FOR THAT AFTERNOON. CHUKHROV SAID THERE WAS NO SET INTERVAL BETWEEN MEETINGS, BUT THAT THE TWO SIDES ALTERNATED IN PROPOSING THE DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING IN MUCH THE SAME FASHION FOLLOWED DURING THE US-PRC WARSAW TALKS.

2. CHUKHROV SAID THAT A NUMBER OF DRAFTS HAD BEEN SUBMITTED BY BOTH SIDES ATTEMPTING TO NARROW THE DIFFERENCES IN LANGUAGE ON MINOR POINTS, BUT THAT IN FACT THERE HAD BEEN NO PROGRESS ON

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ACTUAL BORDER QUESTIONS. ASKED ABOUT DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES,

CHUKHROV SAID THAT CHINESE AND SOVIET POSITIONS REMAINED UNCHANGED, ADDING THAT THE PRC DEMAND FOR SOVIET WITHDRAWAL FROM DISPUTED AREAS CONTINUED TO BE THE MAJOR OBSTACLE TO PROGRESS. HE SAID THERE WERE A NUMBER OF MINOR ISSUES THAT COULD BE SETTLED QUITE EASILY IF CHINESE WOULD AGREE TO ADDRESS THEM ON A STEP BY STEP BASIS.

3. USLO OFFICER NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME SPECULATION THAT THE RECENT PRC ANNOUNCEMENT OF AMNESTY FOR WAR CRIMINALS MIGHT PRESAGE SOME MOVEMENT ON THE TWO SOVIET HELICOPTER PILOTS HELD BY PEKING. CHUKHROV SAID THEY HAD READ THE ANNOUNCEMENT CLOSELY WITH THIS THOUGHT IN MIND, BUT THERE WAS NOTHING IN IT TO SUGGEST THAT OTHER THAN FORMER KUOMINGTANG ELEMENTS WERE INVOLVED. THE ANNOUNCEMENT AS HE SAW IT WAS DIRECTED PRIMARILY AT TAIWAN BUT IT COULD ALSO SUGGEST THAT ADDITIONAL CADRE WHO HAVE BEEN PURGED WOULD BE REHABILITATED.
BUSH

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